

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 141033
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AID-05
IO-13 OIC-02 HA-05 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 /105 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:MHORNBLOW:DE
APPROVED BY NEA:WRCRAWFORD
EUR/SE:ESMITH
NEA:PLANDE
INR/RNA/SOA:GGRIFIN
NEA/RA:JMONTVILLE
P:JFORBES

-----063198 030259Z /70

O R 030226Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY DACCA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

S E C R E T STATE 141033

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO, PGOV, AF, PK, UR

SUBJECT: CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING, JUNE 5, 1978
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 141033

REF: ANKARA 4068 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE ASKED KABUL TO INCLUDE YOU AS AN ADDRESSEE ON
THEIR SUBSTANTIVE REPORTING CABLES AND HAVE REPEATED SEVERAL
OF THEIR PREVIOUS TELEGRAMS TO YO'. YOUR ARE AUTHORIZED TO
DRAW UPON THESE AT YOUR DISCRETION DURING COUNCIL SESSIONS.

WE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SHARING A GREAT DEAL OF INFORMATION WITH PAKS AND IRANIANS IN ISLAMABAD AND TEHRAN AND BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE EQUALLY CANDID AND FORTHCOMING WITH CENTO. WE OF COURSE HOPE THIS WON'T BE A ONE WAY STREET.

2. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE YOU MAY ALSO TELL CENTO DEPUTIES THAT:

-- WE RECOGNIZE AFGHANISTAN, WITH OR WITHOUT SOVIET ENCOURAGEMENT, COULD REVIVE PUSHTUNISTAN AND BALUCHISTAN QUESTIONS THEREBY CAUSING SERIOUS SECURITY PROBLEMS FOR IRAN AND PAKISTAN.

-- THE U.S. IS CONCERNED BY HOW NEW SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN COULD AFFECT REGION. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING AFGHAN SITUATION WITH PRIME MINISTER DESAI IN WASHINGTON JUNE 13-14, AND SECRETARY SAW PAK FOREIGN MINISTER SHAHI ON JUNE 2 AND DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH HIM.

-- WE STILL HAVE NO PERSUASIVE EVIDENCE OF SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN PLANNING OR EXECUTION OF COUP. SOVIETS THOUGH HAVE MOVED QUICKLY TO CAPITALIZE ON NEW SITUATION. DURING PAST SEVERAL WEEKS AFGHANISTAN AND SOVIET UNION HAVE SIGNED AT LEAST 9 ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS TOTALING \$30-40 MILLION. ALL THESE AGREEMENTS WERE UNDER NEGOTIATION WITH THE DAOUD GOVERNMENT. IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS THERE HAVE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 141033

ALSO BEEN A NUMBER OF CARGO FLIGHTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION TO KABUL AND THEY HAVE SENT ADDITIONAL MILITARY ADVISORS. WE NOW BELIEVE THERE ARE AROUND 500 SOVIET MILITARY ADVISORS IN AFGHANISTAN AND ABOUT 1,000 ECONOMIC ADVISORS.

-- IN TERMS OF SOVIET POLICY WE BELIEVE THAT ALL THEIR ACTIONS WILL BE TAKEN WITH ONE EYE TO INDIA AS THEY WON'T WISH TO DO ANYTHING WHICH WILL UNDULY ALARM THE INDIANS. SOVIETS UNDOUBTEDLY REALIZE THAT NEW GOVERNMENT IS FRAGILE AND ARE LIKELY TO ADVISE RESTRAINT WITH REGARD TO EXTERNAL ADVENTURISM FOR THE TIME BEING. THEY WILL PROBABLY BE RESPONSIVE TO REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL MILITARY EQUIPMENT, BEARING IN MIND, HOWEVER, THE LIMITED AFGHAN ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY.

-- WE BELIEVE NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT'S MAIN GOAL NOW IS TO STAY IN POWER. MAIN THREATS TO NEW REGIME COULD COME FROM TRIBES AND SUCH GROUPS AS MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD. WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED REPORTS OF SCATTERED RESISTANCE IN PARTS OF KUNAR, NANGARHAR AND PAKTIA PROVINCES. WE WOULD ALSO NOTE THAT MANY MILITARY OFFICERS FROM 7TH AND 8TH INFANTRY BRIGADES WHO DID NOT SURRENDER HAVE TAKEN OFF FOR THE HILLS. IT IS REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT MANY FORMER SENIOR MILITARY

LEADERS HAVE GONE INTO TRIBAL AREAS OR INTO HIDING. MORE-
OVER, REUTER REPORTED JUNE 1 THAT EIGHT RIGHT WING AFGHAN

PARTIES HAD JOINED TOGETHER TO FORM NEW PARTY CALLED THE
JUBBNAT-E-MILLI (NATIONAL REFUGEE FRONT) IN ORDER TO
"STRUGGLE FOR THE CAUSE OF DEMOCRACY AND ISLAM IN AFGHAN-
ISTAN." HOWEVER IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER TRIBAL
GROUPS COULD MOUNT EFFECTIVE OFFENSE AGAINST CENTRAL
GOVERNMENT.

-- NEW REGIME COULD ENCOUNTER DIFFICULTIES
UNLESS IT CAN DELIVER ON ITS PROMISES. IN THIS
CONNECTION LAND REFORM MAY BE A KEY TEST. ON THE OTHER
HAND AN OVER-HASTY OR ILL-PLANNED EFFORT TO IMPLEMENT
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 141033

PROMISES TOO QUICKLY MIGHT BACKFIRE.

-- THE USG IS STILL TAKING THE NEW REGIME'S PRONOUNCEMENTS
ON NON-ALIGNMENT AT FACE VALUE AND MAKING IT CLEAR
NOTICE THAT WE EXPECT THEM TO LIVE UP TO THIS STATED
POLICY. WE HOPE TO CONTINUE OUR ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN
AND HAVE AUTHORIZED OUR AMBASSADOR IN KABUL TO CONDUCT
EXPLORATORY DISCUSSIONS WITH APPROPRIATE CABINET MINISTERS
CONCERNING CONTINUED U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. WE ARE
TAKING THIS STEP BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT TO BE IN BEST INTER-
ESTS TO US AND CENTO COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE AN ALTERNATIVE
TO TOTAL RELIANCE ON THE SOVIET UNION AND TO DO EVERYTHING
POSSIBLE TO ENCOURAGE AN INDEPENDENT AND NON-ALIGNED AF-
GHANISTAN.

-- THE AFGHAN PROBLEM SHOULD BE LOOKED AT IN A REGIONAL
CONTEXT. COOPERATION AMONG COUNTRIES OF THE REGION
BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

3. LONDON, TEHRAN, PARIS, ISLAMABAD, JIDDA, DACCA, CAIRO,
PEKING MAY DRAW UPON PARA 2 ABOVE IN ANY DISCUSSIONS YOU
HAVE ABOUT AFGHANISTAN WITH MFA. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLIANCE, MEETINGS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE141033
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MHORNBLOW:DE
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780232-0429
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780699/aaaadgzg.tel
Line Count: 158
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4d42be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ANKARA 4068
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2499376
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING, JUNE 5, 1978 SECRET SECRET
TAGS: PGOV, AF, PK, UR, CENTO
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4d42be92-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014